

NOTICE OF PREPARATION

PROJECT TITLE: Chino Hills State Park Entrance Road

PROJECT LOCATION: The proposed project is located in San Bernardino County at the northern end on Chino Hills State Park adjacent to the City of Chino Hills. The northern limit of the project is located less than ½ mile south of Soquel Canyon Parkway at the intersection of Bane Canyon Road, Elinvar Road and Sapphire Road. The project extends approximately two miles to the south and crosses property owned by the City of Chino Hills approximately ½ mile south of the northern project limit. The southern project limit is located where the previously built two-lane paved road begins in the park interior.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This project would build a new improved two-lane road on the general alignment of the existing unimproved dirt entrance road (Bane Canyon Road) for a distance of approximately 2 miles. Construction would relocate the road onto a more favorable alignment, as feasible, and utilize retaining walls to reduce cut and fill slopes. The proposed project would also construct a multi-use trail, include underground utilities, a trailhead, road drainage facilities, a park entrance station with utilities, a scenic overlook, a maintenance storage area, a comfort station, erosion control measures, and minor intersection improvements.

POSSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS: This project is located within a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and has potential significant adverse effects on the natural environment (wildlife and vegetation) and the viewshed from various locations due to steep topography and other site constraints. These potentially significant effects would be most noticeable during and immediately after construction. The project may also have significant environmental effects on geology, hydrology and water quality, ambient noise and visitor access (during construction), paleontology and utilities. Please see the Initial Study Checklist for additional detail.

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING: A public information meeting will be held on February 11th, 2004 from 7:00 to 8:30 PM at the Chino Hills High School. The address is 16150 Pomona Rincon Road, Chino Hills, CA. Preliminary maps of the proposed project will be available for review.

The California Department of Parks and Recreation is the Lead Agency under the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act and is considering the preparation of an environmental document for the project identified above. We need to know the views of your agency or organization as to the scope and content of the environmental information that is germane to your agency's or organization's statutory responsibilities or interest in connection with the proposed project. If you do not belong to an agency or organization, this notice has been sent to inform you that detailed planning for the park entrance road is commencing and to provide you with an early opportunity to learn more about the project at the Public Information Meeting and discuss the project. If you have issues that are important to you, a response to the Notice of Preparation will provide you the opportunity to request that the EIR identify these issues.

Your response must be sent to the address below not later than thirty (30) days after the filing date of this notice. We would appreciate the name of a contact person in your agency or organization.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION CONTACT PERSON

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